



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

NEREIDA MARIA MENENDEZ et al.

Serial No. 09/698,502

Filed October 27, 2000

METHOD FOR COMPLETING AND
STORING AN ELECTRONIC
RENTAL AGREEMENT

:
:
: Group Art Unit 2161
:
:
: Examiner: Not Assigned
:
:
: Attorney Docket No. 285277-00018
:
:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
March 13, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
BOX MISSING PARTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notice To File Missing Parts Of Non-Provisional Application, mailed January 17, 2001, enclosed for filing in the above-captioned application are an original executed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney, a Transmittal Form, a Fee Transmittal and a duplicate copy thereof, a check in the amount of \$840.00, and a copy of said Notice.

Also enclosed is a Request for Corrected Filing Receipt and a copy of the original Filing Receipt with the change noted thereon, a copy of the original Utility Patent Application Transmittal (PTO/SB/05) and a copy of the Express Mail Receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk D. Houser
Registration No. 37,357
Attorney for Applicants

(412) 566-6083



Sector
#3

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/21 (6-98)
Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/698,502	
	Filing Date	October 27, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Nereida Maria Menendez	
	Group Art Unit	2161	
	Examiner Name	Not Assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	13	Attorney Docket Number	285277-00018

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney; Request for Corrected Filing Receipt, with Marked-up copy of Original; Transmittal Letter; Return Post Card
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Kirk D. Houser, Reg. No. 37,357
Signature	
Date	March 13, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: 3/13/01	
Typed or printed name	Cathy Roeder
Signature	
Date	March 13, 2001

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



#3

PTO/SB/17 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2000

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 840.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/698,502
Filing Date	10/27/00
First Named Inventor	Nereida Maria Menendez
Examiner Name	Not Assigned
Group Art Unit	2161
Attorney Docket No.	285277-00018

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number: 02-2556
Deposit Account Name: Eckert Seamans

☒ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 690	201 345	Utility filing fee	710.00
106 310	206 155	Design filing fee	
107 480	207 240	Plant filing fee	
108 690	208 345	Reissue filing fee	
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 710.00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
17	-20** = 0	X 18.00	= 0.00
1	-3** = 0	X 80.00	= 0.00
Multiple Dependent			

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 78	202 39	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 260	204 130	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 78	209 39	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0.00

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	130.00
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 380	216 190	Extension for reply within second month	
117 870	217 435	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,360	218 680	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 1,850	228 925	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 300	219 150	Notice of Appeal	
120 300	220 150	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 260	221 130	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,210	241 605	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,210	242 605	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 430	243 215	Design issue fee	
144 580	244 290	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126 240	126 240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 690	246 345	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149 690	249 345	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179 690	279 345	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169 900	169 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Kirk D. Houser	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,357	Telephone	(412) 566.6083
Signature		Date	3/13/01		

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



#3

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
: NEREIDA MARIA MENENDEZ et al. : Group Art Unit 2161
: Serial No. 09/698,502 :
: Filed October 27, 2000 : Examiner: Not Assigned
: METHOD FOR COMPLETING AND : Attorney Docket No. 285277-00018
: STORING AN ELECTRONIC :
: RENTAL AGREEMENT :

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
March 13, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
BOX MISSING PARTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

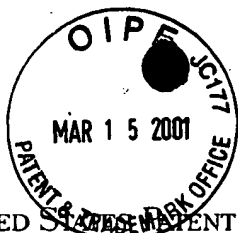
Sir:

Per the attached documents, please change the filing date from October 26, 2000 to October 27, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk D. Houser
Registration No. 37,357
Attorney for Applicants

(412) 566-6083



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
09/698,502	10/26/2000 10/27/2000	2161	0	285277-00018	22	17	1

CONFIRMATION NO. 6442

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000005683950

Kirk D. Houser
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Date Mailed: 01/17/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the PTO processes the reply to the Notice, the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Nereida Maria Menendez, Residence Not Provided;

Continuing Data as Claimed by Applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 01/03/2001

Projected Publication Date:

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Method for completing and storing an electronic rental agreement

Preliminary Class

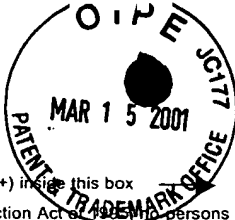
705

Data entry by : SANDARA, HOA

Team : OIPE

Date: 01/17/2001





DATE OF EXPRESS MAIL DEPOSIT: 10/27/2000

PTO/SB/05 (08-00)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	285277-00018
First Inventor	Nereida Maria Menendez
Title	Method For Completing And Storing An Electronic Rental Agreement
Express Mail Label No.	EK871378557US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

1. ☐ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages **36**]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross Reference to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to sequence listing, a table,
or a computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets **22**]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages ☐]
 - a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)
 - c. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)
named in the prior application, see 37 CFR
1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or
Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
(if applicable, all necessary)
 - a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ii. ☐ paper
 - c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement [☐ Power of
(when there is an assignee) Attorney
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☐ Information Disclosure [☐ Copies of IDS
Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations
13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☒ Other: **A declaration and
fee are not enclosed
but will be provided upon request**

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)

of prior application No.: _____/_____

Prior application information:

Examiner: _____

Group / Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.**18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**☐ Customer Number or Bar Code LabelOR ☒ Correspondence address below

Name	Kirk D. Houser				
Address	Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC				
	600 Grant Street, 44th Floor				
City	Pittsburgh	State	PA	Zip Code	15219
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	412-566-6000	Fax	412-566-6099

Name (Print/Type)	Kirk D. Houser	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,357
Signature			Date 10/27/00

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.



EXPRESS MAIL

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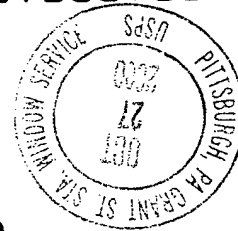
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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE™

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Day Year 12 2001	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Noon <input type="checkbox"/> 3 PM	Postage \$ 15.75
AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Day <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Day	Return Receipt Fee
lbs. ozs. 1 2	Int'l Alpha Country Code	COD Fee Insurance Fee
every weekend <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday	Acceptance Clerk Initials DB	Total Postage & Fees \$ 15.75

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INSURANCE COVERAGE LIMITS**



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OF PAYMENT: Mail Corporate Acct. No. Agency Acct. No. or Invoice Acct. No.	<input type="checkbox"/> WAIVER OF SIGNATURE (Domestic Only) Additional merchandise insurance is void if waiver of signature is requested. I wish delivery to be made without obtaining signature of addressee or addressee's agent (if delivery employee judges that article can be left in secure location) and I authorize that delivery employee's signature constitutes valid proof of delivery. <input type="checkbox"/> NO DELIVERY <input type="checkbox"/> Weekend <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Customer Signature
---	--

FROM: (PLEASE PRINT)

PHONE (412) 566-6083

Kirk D. Houser
Robert Seamans Sherin & Mellott,
LLC.
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
285277-00018 (0619)

TO: (PLEASE PRINT)

PHONE ()

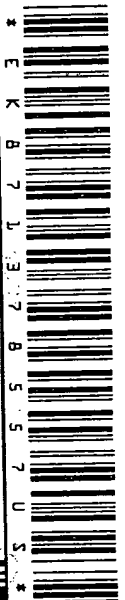
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Washington, DC 20231

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/698,502	10/26/2000	Nereida Maria Menendez	285277-00018

CONFIRMATION NO. 6442

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000005683951

Kirk D. Houser
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Date Mailed: 01/17/2001

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.
Applicant must submit \$ 710 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).
- The oath or declaration is missing.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 840.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

710.00 OP
130.00 OP
09698502
00000002
JAN 17 2001
JAN 17 2001